

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A method of enabling preferred transport by coupling a content tag with content contained in a content file transmission, the method comprising:
 - a client node indicating selection of the content that is published by an authorized entity that is authorized to distribute the content;
 - associating the content tag indicating a type of service in accordance with the content of the content file transmission, wherein the content tag is created and associated with the content file transmission at a location where the content file transmission is ~~originally published~~ distributed by an owner of the content the authorized entity that is authorized to distribute the content, wherein the content tag is discrete from the content in the content file transmission;
 - receiving the content tag for content file transmission ~~with the content tag~~ into a network from the authorized entity;
 - reading the content tag, which was associated with the content file transmission by the owner of the content, in an instance of a network transmission from the owner of the content to the client node;
 - determining whether at least part of the content file transmission should be accorded a predetermined type of transmission service by contacting an ~~external authentication server at an address specified by the content tag~~ system;
 - generating flow information for the content file transmission, the flow information including information specifying the type of service indicated

in the content tag in response to successful authentication by the ~~external authentication server system~~; and
transmitting at least part of the content file transmission according to the type of service specified by the flow information over the network from the authorized entity to the client node, wherein if the content tag indicates that at least part of the content file transmission should be accorded a predetermined type of transmission service and the authentication was successful, transmitting the at least part of the content file transmission with a preferred type of service, and if the content tag does not indicate that at least part of the content file transmission should be accorded a predetermined type of transmission service, transmitting the content file transmission with a standard type of service; ~~and~~
~~providing the at least part of the content file transmission to a user requested location.~~

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content file transmission is electronic data.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content file transmission is media content.
- 5-6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content tag enables control on distribution of the content file transmission by at least one selected from a group consisting of an owner of the content, a peer-to-peer network, and a service provider.
8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising:
identifying a type of content in order to provide specific transport service to differing types of content.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein identifying a type of content includes:
 reading the content tag.
10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the specific transport service includes at least one selected from a group consisting of a predetermined amount of bandwidth, a quality of service, a transmission attribute, an amount of packet loss, and an amount of jitter.
11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the specific transport service is an amount of bandwidth.
12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein associating the content tag with the content file transmission includes:
 associating a multi-element content tag with the content file transmission.
13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein associating the content tag with the content includes:
 associating a content tag, wherein the content tag is configured such that the content tag is extendible while remaining machine readable.
14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the machine readable content tag includes at least one selected from a group consisting of electronic data and encoded data.
15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising:
 authenticating the distribution allowed for the content file transmission, and
 authorizing only the allowed distribution for the content file transmission.
16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein the distribution authorized includes geographic restrictions.
17. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein ~~the user requested location is a device~~ determining whether at least part of the content file

transmission should be accorded the predetermined type of transmission service by contacting the authentication system comprises contacting the authentication system at a network address specified in the content tag.

18. (Currently amended) The method according to claim [[17]] 2, wherein the ~~device~~ client node is one selected from a group consisting of personal computer, a minicomputer, a microcomputer, a mainframe computer, a personal digital assistant, a hand-held device, a set-top box, a cellular telephone, an IP telephone, a videophone, a videogame machine, a television, and a personal video recorder.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein generating the flow information for the content file transmission further comprises:

retrieving a transport profile corresponding to the content tag from at least one selected from a group consisting of an external database, a look up table, and a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) serving agent.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the content tag includes electronic bits of information identifying at least one selected from a group consisting of a type of service, a content class or type, an originator of the content file transmission, metadata with searchable descriptors, an authentication Uniform Resource Locator (URL) configured to enable dynamic authentication, an association with a type of network service, and a content application.

21. (Currently amended) A method of inserting a content identifier and transmitting electronic data, the method including:

a client node indicating selection of electronic data that is published by an authorized entity that is authorized to distribute the electronic data;

inserting the content identifier in the electronic data at a location at which content is ~~originally published~~ distributed by and authorized entity by an owner of the content that is authorized to distribute the content, wherein the content identifier is discrete from the content the electronic data;

receiving the electronic data with the content identifier into a network;
reading the content identifier, which was associated with the electronic data by
the ~~owner of the content~~ authorized entity, in an instance of a network
transmission;
determining whether at least part of the electronic data should be accorded a
predetermined type of transmission service by contacting an ~~external~~
~~authentication server at an address specified by the content tag system~~;
determining a type of transmission service to accord the electronic data based
on information in the content identifier in response to successful
authentication by the ~~external authentication server system~~; and
transmitting at least part of the electronic data according to the determined type
of service over the network from the authorized entity to the client node,
wherein if the content identifier indicates that at least part of the electronic
data should be accorded a predetermined type of transmission service and
the authentication was successful, transmitting the at least part of the
electronic data with a preferred type of service, and if the content
identifier does not indicate that at least part of the electronic data should
be accorded a predetermined type of transmission service, transmitting the
electronic data with a standard type of service; ~~and~~
~~providing the at least part of the content to a user requested location.~~

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein
transmitting the at least part of the electronic data includes:

transmitting the electronic data over a network in which clients and servers are
distributed such that an owner of the electronic data does not own the
server element on which the electronic data is stored.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the
electronic data is media content.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the content identifier enables control on distribution of the media content by at least one selected from a group consisting of the content owner, the network, and a service provider.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein ~~the user requested location is a device~~ determining whether at least part of the electronic data should be accorded the predetermined type of transmission service by contacting the authentication system comprises contacting the authentication system at a network address specified in the content identifier.

26. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[25]]~~ 21, wherein the ~~device~~ client node is one selected from a group consisting of personal computer, a minicomputer, a microcomputer, a mainframe computer, a personal digital assistant, a hand-held device, a set-top box, a cellular telephone, an IP telephone, a videophone, a videogame machine, a television, and a personal video recorder.